

MEMO

NEW JERSEY STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

TO Facility File - Borne Chemical CompanyFROM Philip Cole - OHSCDATE December 23, 1980SUBJECT Inspection on December 17, 1980**Background:**

Borne Chemical is a Major Facility (500,000 gallon) that blends virgin oils with chemical additives for oil modification and subsequent resale. Borne Chemical Company is presently operating under a Chapter 11 and has liquidated other real estate holdings. Borne Chemical had in the past leased property and storage tanks to several chemical and hazardous waste handlers up through 1979. When the waste handlers ceased operations and left they failed to remove large quantities of potentially dangerous wastes from off of the facility premises.

Purpose:

The purpose of this meeting and inspection was to address the imminent hazards posed by the toxic chemicals that remain on site and an inspection and review of the facility pursuant to SPCC Plans.

Persons Contacted:

Kerry Webster - Ecology and Environmental, Inc.
Dave White - Ecology and Environmental, Inc.
Lou Markowitz - Attorney - Borne Chemical
Coles Phinizy - EPA

Meeting:

Arrived 1000 hours at Borne Chemical Services, Front Street, Elizabeth, NJ. Weather clean skys no percipitation wind 5 - 10 mph from N.W. Temperatures 5°C.

Topics of the meeting were directed mostly at the hazardous waste stored on site and the SPCC Plan. The submitted SPCC is inconsistent with actual finding at the facility. One deliberate misrepresentation on the plan addressed the facility as having only above ground product transmission lines. Yet on November 13, 1980, a spill was reported to this office, involving a rupture in an underground product transmission line. A copy of this report is attached. The SPCC Plan is to be re-submitted by another engineer because the original plan has been considered improper and unacceptable by EPA.

The hazardous waste presently stored on site has an unknown origin. Chemical composition is known to some extent, but many parameters were never tested for (e.g. heavy metals, pesticides, and G.C. scans for purgable organics). There were tests performed for PCB's which appeared in 50 ppm or less concentrations.

Borne Chemical has contacted several hazardous waste disposal and removal organizations for removal of these wastes. However, these organizations fail to respond to further inquiries by Borne. Subsequently, Borne has not been able to have the wastes removed.

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Inspection:

The tank farm that Borne Chemical owns has insufficient diking, a spill may breach the walls. Product is found in puddles around and about the tank bases, reportedly these spills have been here for over one year.

The hazardous waste drum storage area does not have proper secondary containment.

The process area have many tanks in the process building. A tank failure will escape the confines of the building.

Tank car transfer areas are not protected with secondary containment. Many spills were observed.

Tank truck transfer areas are not protected with secondary containment. Many spills were observed.

Conclusion:

Borne Chemical doesn't appear to have the necessary assets to effectively clean-up its facility. There are many trouble spots that require immediate attention.

Recommendation:

If Borne Chemical is capable of cleaning up its facility, it will require consent agreements and inter-agency over-seeing by Solid Waste Administration, Office of Hazardous Substances Control and also from Enforcement.

PC:efw

Attachments

cc: Messrs. K. Webster, D. White
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cc: Mr. Coles H. Phinzy
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